

STAGE CELEBRITIES IN NEXT WEEK'S ATTRACTIONS AT THE LOCAL THEATRES



THE NEW PLAYS

"True to Form"
Runs to Talk

By CHARLES DARTON

When Augustin MacHugh has earned to be simple he will probably be able to write a much better play than "True to Form." Even as it stands at the Bramhall Playhouse this comedy deserves to be rewritten—for some one else—for it presents an interesting idea.

Parents who are selfish enough to feel they have first claim on a daughter after she has married should be made to see the error of their ways. Likewise a good shaking up will do the daughter no harm. Mr. MacHugh is quite right in both these matters. More power to him—and less words! The trouble with "True to Form" is that it runs to talk of the obviously manufactured kind. The author should have asked himself, "Do human beings talk like that?"—or, better still, asked a sensible friend.

When he has nothing else to do an unutterably loquacious individual goes out and talks to the moon. In spite of all his drinking he is never speechless. You recognize in him the man who knows it all. There is nothing he cannot explain and analyze. To keep himself merry and bright he carries a decanter about with him so that he may never be at a loss for an inspiration. His taste for whiskey is equalled only by his eye of platitude.

But he is not the only offender. The young husband talks to his wife in the terms of an amateur poet, saying "Your eyes say yes, but your heart says no," and so forth, and so forth, until you are not surprised that she shrinks from leaving her parents and going with him to New York. But he has sense enough to declare he will not stand aside and give her father and mother first place. At best these new plays are an uninteresting pair, and seem as far apart as ever when they are in a home of their own. Accordingly, Ralph turns from Constance to her cousin Margaret and thinks it best to let her have the play, but he is not so sure when the bride's jealousy is roused, and accepts the convenient explanation that he was merely looking for sympathy. Then Margaret, who all along has shown good sense, in foolish enough to risk her happiness with the talkative gentleman who pretends to be a bolder drinker than he is, and the usefulness of her love. A beautiful idea, is it not?

Sue MacManamy wins respect for Margaret by her sincerity. Yvonne Wilkins means little as the bride, and John Warner talks mournfully through his teeth as the husband. Edwin Neander gives the impudent air of a bolder drinker than he is, and Eugene Blair and George Graham are excellent as the parents who finally see their mistake.

Poetic Romance

In the Village.

It was probably love of his children as well as Tennessee that moved Edwin Milton Royle to his dramatization of "Laurel and Elaine." In any event there is rest for the weary from the hurly-burly of Broadway at the Greenwich Village Theatre.

One follows languidly this poetic romance, giving ear to carefully studied recitations rather than taking acting into account, and viewing with pleasure scenes that aid the imagination. There is a haunting beauty in the picture of the funeral barge bearing to King Arthur's court the white figure of the ill maid who died of love of Laurel.

Pedro de Cordoba figures handsomely as the knight, and his noble bearing is marred only by an occasional stiffness of manner. Moreover, there is music, together with sadness, in his voice. Josephine Royle plays Elaine pleasingly, and Selma Royle is a robustly imperious Guinevere.

"PEEK-A-BOO" RETURNS
TO COLUMBIA THEATRE

"Peek-a-Boo" comes to the Columbia Theatre on Monday afternoon for a return engagement. In the company are Keeso Brothers, Ed Quigley, Florence Darley, Gertrude Mullen, Al Dayton, Ben Grinnell, Grace Wallace, the Four High-Steppers, the Bazar Troupe and the Ignatz Plato Troupe of World's Worst Acrobats. There is also a chorus of girls.

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Plays for the
Coming Week

MONDAY NIGHT.
Ritz Theatre—"Bluebeard's Eighth Wife."
Music Box Theatre—"Music Box Review."

TUESDAY NIGHT.
Empire Theatre—"Otis Skinner in 'Blood and Sand.'"
Hudson Theatre—"The Man in the Making."

WEDNESDAY NIGHT.
Belasco Theatre—"David Warfield in 'The Return of Peter Grimm.'"

THE postponed production of "Bluebeard's Eighth Wife," with Ina Claire as the star, will take place at the Ritz Theatre on Monday night. Manager William Harris Jr. states that the original version of the farce, translated by Charlton Andrews from the French of Alfred Reuss, Harry Baxter, Ernest Stollard, Leonora Harris and Anne Meredith.

Sam H. Harris will open the new Music Box Theatre, in West 43rd Street, on Monday night with Irving Berlin's "Music Box Review." Among others in the company are Sam Bernard, William Collier, Florence Moore, Wilda Bennett, Joseph Santley, Ivy Sawyer and Irving Berlin.

At the Empire Theatre on Tuesday

night Otis Skinner will appear in "Blood and Sand," a play by Tom Cushing founded on the novel of the same name by Blasco Ibanez. The story is that of a bullfighter's infatuation for the aristocratic Donna Solan, which destroys the happiness of his wife, while he comes to defeat as the greatest figure in the national sport. All the scenes are in Spain. With Mr. Skinner will be Catherine Calvert, Madeline Delmar, Louis Calvert, Romaine Calder, Cornelia Skinner and others.

David Warfield will begin an engagement at the Belasco Theatre on

"The Man in the Making," a play

by James W. Elliott, will be produced at the Hudson Theatre on Tuesday night by John Meehan. It will be acted by Kathleen Connors, Leah Winslow, Suzanne Wilson, Donald Gallagher, Paul Keaton, Robert Fiske, Joseph Guthrie, Edwin Walter, Billie Bergh and Justin Lees.

"Mr. Pim Passes By," A. A. Milne's comedy of English country life, returns to the Garrick on Monday night for a two weeks' stay. Laura Hope Crews again heads the cast. Gilda Varet, in "Enter Madame," comes to the Bronx Opera House.

Wednesday night in a revival of Mr. Belasco's play, "The Return of Peter Grimm," The supporting company includes John Sainpolis, George Wellington, Joseph Brennan, William Boag, John F. Webster, Richard Dupont, Mario Bates, Miriam Doyle and Marie Reichardt.

"The Greenwich Village Review" will be the attraction at Hurtig & Seamon's Theatre. The principal performers are Frank Harcourt, Senna and Webster, Kittle Glasco, Libby Hart, Shaw and Lee, Ida Bernard and Al Ellis.

AMERICA, IN NEWPORT, ON LAST TRIP.

NEWPORT, R. I., Sept. 17.—The schooner yacht "America," bound to a ship harbor at Newport for preservation by the Navy Department, was conveyed here yesterday by Admiral Sims. Major Mahoney and other naval and civil officials aboard the destroyer Rodgers.

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